

EXHIBIT C

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

IN RE: VALSARTAN PRODUCTS
LIABILITY LITIGATION

CORRECTED COPY
CIVIL ACTION NUMBER:

19-2875
Status Conference

Mitchell H. Cohen United States Courthouse
One John F. Gerry Plaza
Camden, New Jersey 08101
March 27, 2019

B E F O R E: **THE HONORABLE ROBERT B. KUGLER**
 SENIOR UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
 MAGISTRATE JUDGE JOEL SCHNEIDER

A P P E A R A N C E S:

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1 can't think of any, but we'll just assume that they deny
2 everything. Okay? Go from there.

3 All right. Motions. There's another bunch of motions
4 pending and I'm not going to get to those because we're really
5 not going to entertain motions early in this process. If
6 there are disputes that need to be resolved, the way we're
7 going to do them is we're going to put them on the agenda if
8 they can be worked out for the next conference and we will
9 deal with them here in the courtroom, if we have to. But
10 we're not going to get bogged down in a lot of motion practice
11 at this time. There will be obviously opportunities in the
12 future for various motions to be brought, but I don't want you
13 file a lot of papers in this case. We can work most of these
14 things out with Judge Schneider and myself in the courtroom.

15 Now, ESI protocol. We think that's crucial. We think
16 you need to work a bit on that. I know that the defendants
17 have some issues about this, and whether or not repositories
18 are necessary. It's going to take some convincing to convince
19 me that they're not, but I think we prefer to let the two
20 sides work on that in the next 30 days and come up with any
21 proposal they have at the next conference and we can talk
22 further about that. But that's got to be addressed and it's
23 got to be addressed very soon. What I think we contemplate in
24 this case is that once we get the pleadings straightened out,
25 that there will be what we call fact sheets, similar to what

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1 we call questionnaires that the plaintiffs will be required to
2 fill out in lieu of interrogatories. It will be an automatic
3 process within an X number of days of filing of the short form
4 complaint that the plaintiffs will all have to submit the fact
5 sheet to their adversaries. It will be self-executing, not
6 require a request by the defense side to get this information.
7 There are plenty of examples of those out there. Again, we
8 expect both sides to work on what they're going to look like
9 and what both sides can agree the questions will be on this
10 fact sheet or questionnaires. And once again if you can't, if
11 there's some disagreement on it, we will, we will weigh in on
12 it at a future status conference as to what we think is
13 necessary.

14 The question of deposition protocol I think is
15 premature. And again we expect both sides to work on those
16 issues. But we will be ready to resolve any disputes that you
17 can't resolve, if necessary.

18 Common Benefit Fund. An order, we expect one from
19 plaintiffs' counsel of the leadership of that. Once we get
20 the hierarchy established, I will approve that. I think it's
21 necessary that there be a Common Benefit Fund here to get some
22 of these things done. To get a core group of lawyers working
23 on the work that's going to benefit everybody. But we
24 certainly will, once we get your leadership hierarchy in
25 place, we'll get that, we'll look it over and we'll talk to